(c) The outstanding balances during the first quarter of 1998-99 for which information is available also shows an increasing trend as detailed below and the trend is estimated to continue.

Rs. in crores

Deposit Account	31.3.1998	30.6.1998
FCNR (Banks)	33907	35610
NRE	21766	22548
NRNR	23350	24175

Power Plant at Gopalpur, Orissa

*133. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gopalpur Coal Mines under Sundargarn Parliamentary Constituency in Orissa is the biggest in Asia and whether Government have any proposal to encourage the private concern to set up Power Plant at Gopalpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time schedule for setting up the Power Plant; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) the Hirma thermal Power Project being promoted by M/s Consolidated Electric Power Asia (India) Ltd. (6 × 660 MW) is proposed to be developed in the village of Hirma, District Jharsujuda, orissa for which a coal linkage of 19 million tonnes per annum has been accorded from the Kulda and Garjan Bahal Blocks in Gopalpur tract of Ib Valley Coal fields under the Mahanadid Coal Fields Ltd. So far, this is the largest power project proposed to be set up in the country in the private sector. After financial closure, the first Unit is planned to be commissioned in 39 months and the second Unit in 42 months and the remaining units at an interval of 3 months each thereafter.

Soiled/Mutilated Notes Issued by the Banks

*134. SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that packets/bundles of re-issued currency notes issued by the public sector banks generally contain soiled and mutilated denotes; and

(b) if so, what corrective measures Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) and (b) the Reseve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the soiled notes are withdrawn in a phased manner by the Issuing Offices through more than 4000 currency chests maintained by public sector banks all over the country. Such notes are also received at the counters of Issue Offices from the Government departments and public. RBI has also issued instructions to all the banks that the notes received by them should be first properly sorted out into reissuables and non-issuables. As a part of currency management banks are required to deposit non-issuable notes with currency chests so that such notes can be removed by the RBI Issue offices from time to time for eventual destruction and not put back into circulation. Reports of instances of soiled or mutilated notes being found in packets or re-issued currency notes are forwarded to the Banks for taking corrective measures.

Operation of Private/Foreign Banks

*136. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the private sector as well as foreign banks provide